

MARKET HARBOROUGH
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Annual Report

OF THE
Medical Officer of Health
For the Year 1949

R. W. KIND, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health

Market Harborough Rural District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	...	45,166
No. of inhabited houses (end of 194 ⁶) according to rate books	...	...	...	...	2352 31252
Rateable Value, 1st April, 194 ⁶	...	...	...	...	£43,352
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	£172 14 0

POPULATION :—(See also Appendix A.)

Registrar General's estimate :

CIVILIAN	...	...	...	...	9,900
TOTAL	...	...	...	...	9,920

TABLE showing the Registrar General's estimate of the population trends during the present decade :—

1940	...	9,265	1945	...	8,713
1941	...	9,688	1946	...	8,809
1942	...	9,448	1947	...	9,311
1943	...	9,497	1948	...	9,810
1944	...	9,110	1949	...	9,900

BIRTHS :—

			1948	1949
Live Births :—Legitimate	Male	...	90	91
	Female	...	66	92
	Total	...	156	183
Illegitimate	Male	...	5	3
	Female	...	4	2
	Total	...	9	5
Total live births	Male	...	95	94
	Female	...	70	94
	Total	...	165	188
Stillbirths :—Legitimate	Male	...	1	5
	Female	...	1	1
	Total	...	2	6
Illegitimate	Male	...	—	—
	Female	...	—	—
	Total	...	—	—

Total Stillbirths :	Male	...	1	5
	Female	...	1	1
	Total	...	2	6
<i>Birthrate per 1,000 estimated population :—</i>			1948	1949
	Market Harborough	...	17.1	18.9
	England and Wales	...	17.9	16.7
<i>Illegitimate birthrate per 1,000 live births :—</i>				
	Market Harborough	...	60.6	26.5
<i>Stillbirths :—</i>	Rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths	...	11.9	30.9
<i>Stillbirths :—</i>	Rate per 1,000 estimated population :—			
	Market Harborough	...	0.20	0.60
	England and Wales	...	0.42	0.39

TABLE showing the changes in the total live births and in the birth rates during the present decade :—

Year	Total live Births Mkt. Harboro'	Birth Rates. (per 1,000 population).		
		Market Harborough	Leicester-shire	England & Wales
1940	102	11.0	15.1	14.6
1941	116	11.8	14.6	14.2
1942	114	12.1	17.3	15.8
1943	167	17.6	19.6	16.5
1944	181	19.9	21.1	17.6
1945	134	15.4	18.8	16.1
1946	172	19.5	20.6	19.1
1947	193	20.1	21.2	20.5
1948	165	17.1	18.84	17.9
1949	188	18.9	17.35	16.7

<i>DEATHS :—</i>			1948	1949
<i>Total number of Deaths :—</i>	Male	...	53	62
	Female	...	48	54
	Total	...	101	116
<i>Death rate per 1,000 estimated population :—</i>				
	Market Harborough	...	10.29	11.7
	England and Wales	...	10.8	11.7

TABLE showing the changes in the total number of deaths and in the death rates during the present decade.

Year.	Total Deaths. Market Harborough.	Death Rate. (per 1,000 population). Not corrected for age or for sex distribution of the population.		
		Market Harborough	Leicester- shire.	England & Wales.
1940	138	14.9	12.4	14.3
1941	124	12.8	11.0	12.9
1942	118	12.5	10.4	11.6
1943	111	11.7	11.3	12.1
1944	107	11.7	11.2	11.6
1945	134	15.4	11.1	11.4
1946	87	9.9	10.7	11.5
1947	113	12.1	11.3	12.0
1948	101	10.29	9.77	10.8
1949	116	11.7	10.68	11.7

Deaths from puerperal causes :— 1948 1949

No. of deaths :—

Puerperal sepsis ... — —

Other puerperal causes ... — —

Rate per 1,000 live and still births :—

Market Harborough ... — —

England and Wales ... 1.02 0.98

Death of Infants under 1 year of age :—

No. of Deaths :—

Legitimate Male ... 1 2

Female ... — —

Total ... 1 2

Illegitimate Male ... — —

Female ... — —

Total ... — —

Total Infant deaths ... 1 2

Infant Mortality per 1,000 live births :—

Market Harborough ... 6.06 10.6

England and Wales ... 34 32

TABLE showing the deaths of infants under one year and infant mortality rates during the present decade.

Year.	Total Infant Deaths.	Infant Mortality Rates per 1,000 live Births.		
		Market Harborough.	Leicestershire	England & Wales
1938	6	55.6	44	53
1939	5	50.5	46	40
1940	2	19.6	46	55
1941	3	25.9	50	59
1942	6	52.6	47	49
1943	3	18.0	42	49
1944	3	16.6	37	46
1945	5	37.3	36	46
1946	3	17.4	35	43
1947	5	25.9	43	41
1948	1	6.06	32.2	34
1949	2	10.6	27.1	32

Causes of Death :—

Registrar General's Classifications :—

	M	1948		M	1949	
		F	Total		F	Total
1. Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Cerebro-spinal fever	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Scarlet fever	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Tuberculosis, respiratory ...	1	—	1	1	—	1
7. Tuberculosis, non-respiratory	1	—	1	1	—	1
8. Syphilitic Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—
9. Influenza	1	—	1	1	2	3
10. Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—
11. Acute poliomyelitis and polioencephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—
12. Acute infectious encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—

CONTINUATION—Registrar General's Classifications :—

		1948			1949		
		M	F	Total	M	F	Total
13.	Cancer, of buccal cavity and oesophagus (m) and uterus (f)	2	1	3	1	1	2
14.	Cancer of stomach or duodenum	2	2	4	2	1	3
15.	Cancer of breast	—	1	1	—	—	—
16.	Cancer, all other sites ...	4	8	12	4	5	9
17.	Diabetes	—	—	—	—	—	—
18.	Intra-cranial vascular lesions	5	3	8	2	9	11
19.	Heart disease	16	11	27	24	19	43
20.	Other diseases of the circulatory system	1	1	2	2	—	2
21.	Bronchitis	6	6	12	2	1	3
22.	Pneumonia	3	2	5	4	2	6
23.	Other respiratory diseases	1	—	1	1	—	1
24.	Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	—	1	1	2	—	2
25.	Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	—	—	—	—	—	—
26.	Appendicitis	—	—	—	—	1	1
27.	Other digestive diseases ...	—	1	1	1	2	3
28.	Nephritis	2	2	4	1	2	3
29.	Puerperal and post abortion sepsis	—	—	—	—	—	—
30.	Other maternal causes ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
31.	Premature birth	—	—	—	—	—	—
32.	Congenital malformation, birth injuries, infantile diseases	1	—	1	—	—	—
33.	Suicide	—	—	—	3	—	3
34.	Road traffic accidents ...	3	—	3	—	1	1
35.	Other violent causes	—	1	1	2	1	3
36.	All other causes	4	8	12	8	7	15
	Total deaths, all causes ...	53	48	101	62	54	116
	Total of classes 13, 14, 15, 16	8	12	20	7	7	14
	Total of classes 18, 19, 20	22	15	37	28	28	56
	Total of classes 21, 22, 23	10	8	18	7	3	10

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Sanitary Inspector :—

Mr. R. W. Turner, M.S.I.A., A.R. San. I.

I am indebted to Mr. R. W. Turner for the following information upon the sanitary circumstances of the area :—

WATER SUPPLY.

The mains supplies of water have been satisfactory. In five cases where sampling was carried out, well water proved to be unsatisfactory.

In all villages without mains supply there have been shortages, in particular in the villages of Church Langton, East Langton, Stonton Wyville, Shangton, Saddington, Husbands Bosworth and Mowsley, and in these villages some 93,000 gallons of water were carted and distributed by this authority's vehicles and workmen, with a further 27,000 gallons delivered to farmers' tanks.

Samples of mains supplies of water taken for bacteriological and chemical analysis by the suppliers and were found to be satisfactory.

(a) Number of dwelling-houses having a piped water supply laid into the houses	...	...	...	1672
(b) Number of parishes with a piped water supply—				
from public mains	...	...		12
from private reservoirs	...	...		2
(c) Number of parishes without a piped supply of water	...	...	...	17
(d) Number of cases in which piped supply was substituted for well water	...	...	...	137

The village of Saddington has been connected to an extension from the existing main from Fleckney to Bruntingthorpe Aerodrome and nearly all houses in the village now have a piped supply.

A main has been laid from Carlton Reservoir to supply Shangton and the Langtons, but the scheme is not yet complete.

It is proposed to arrange for a main water supply to Husbands Bosworth, Theddingworth, Mowsley, Gumley, Laughton, Stockerston, Horninghold, Nevill Holt, Bringham, Drayton, Medbourne, Glooston, Blaston, Stonton Wyville,

Hallaton, Great Easton, Slawston and Cranoe, when agreement is reached between the parties concerned.

No. of wells cleansed, etc. (Public)	3
No. of houses relying on wells supplies	1100
No. of samples taken from wells for chemical analysis—	
(a) Satisfactory	2
(b) Unsatisfactory	3

SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

No. of cesspools constructed during the year ...	5
No. of cesspools abolished during the year ...	Nil.
Total number in the district, Dec. 31st, 1947 ...	189

A new sewer was laid from the existing outfall works at Horninghold to a more suitable site away from the village, and a modern filtration plant installed.

There are 9 filter systems and 3 land irrigation sewage disposals systems in the district.

Post-War Proposals.

The proposal approved in 1947 regarding new sewers at Smeeton Westerby and joint outfall works at Kibworth Beauchamp has now been approved by the Ministry of Health, and work will commence in July, 1950.

The scheme for Saddington has been approved but the commencing date has been delayed for a period of twelve months.

Schemes for Theddingworth, Drayton and Shangton, together with four of the five Langtons have been designed and negotiations are proceeding.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Total numbers in the district on 31st Dec., 1947 :—	
(a) Privies	165
(b) Pail Closets	90
(c) Water Closets	2120
Number of privies converted to the water carriage system during the year	Nil.
Number of pail closets converted to the water carriage system during the year	5

As in 1948, all earth closets, privies, private cesspools, etc., are cleansed by the occupiers. Public cesspools are cleaned out at as near three monthly intervals as the hire of the Market Harborough Urban District Council's gully emptier and weather conditions permit.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

House refuse is removed fortnightly by direct labour. Two motor vehicles, one of 5, one of 7 cubic yards capacity, (covered) are used. These cover the whole area. Trade refuse is removed on application. Charges are made in accordance with the time and distance from the nearest tip.

Four crude tips are in use at Kibworth, Foxton, Hallaton and Husbands Bosworth.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Total number of complaints received...	...	...	112
Total number of defects or nuisances discovered	...	...	95

Sanitary Inspections of the Area.

Animal Keeping	...	...	...	...	...	Nil.
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	5
Dairies and Cowsheds	...	...	...	...	...	315
Drainage Works	...	...	...	...	...	882
Dwelling houses (all purposes)	...	...	...	...	...	614
Food Premises	...	...	...	...	...	46
Offensive Trades	...	...	...	...	...	Nil.
Rats and Mice Destruction	...	...	...	...	...	11
Refuse Collection and Disposal	...	...	...	...	...	118
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	5
Shops	...	...	...	...	...	7
Slaughterhouses and Meat Inspection	...	...	...	...	...	27
Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	Nil.
Verminous premises and scabies	...	...	...	...	...	6
Water Supplies	...	...	...	...	...	1452
Workshops, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	4
Other Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	301
Total Inspections						3,793

Notices served during the year :—

	Housing	Public Health
Outstanding on January 1st, 1949	10	15
Issued during year ...	41	60
Complied with during year ...	44	47
Statutory action necessary ...	2	2
Outstanding on December 31st, 1949	5	8

CAMPING SITES.

No. of sites in area used for camping
purposes during the year None used frequently.

No. of camping sites for which
licences have been issued for
individual caravans only 2

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION.

Tips are regularly disinfested by Contract with the L.A.E.C. Clearing of small infestations carried out by Council workmen, and occupiers charged on time and material basis. Sewers in the parishes of Kibworth Beauchamp and Harcourt and Fleckney, were cleared by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries operators in conjunction with the Public Health Department.

SCHOOLS.

Church Langton School was examined periodically with regard to water supplies, and water was carted by the Council throughout the year.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

No in the area (a) publicly owned	...	Nil.
(b) Privately owned	...	1
No. of Inspections made	... ..	1

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD
to September 30th, 1949.

*MILK :—**(a) Cowkeepers.*

No. on Register	... ..	154
No. of Inspections made	... ..	308
No. of contraventions outstanding	... ..	10
„ found during year	... ..	Nil.
„ remedied during year	... ..	6
„ Outstanding on 30th Sept., 1948	... ..	4

(b) Dairymen or Purveyors of Milk (other than Cowkeepers).

No. on Register	... ..	2
No. of Inspections made (to 30th Sept., 1948)	...	7
No. of Contraventions found	... ..	Nil.

*Total Contraventions :—**Cleansing—*

Outstanding from previous year ...	...	...	5
Found during the year ...	...	...	Nil.
Remedied during the year ...	...	...	5
Outstanding on 30th Sept., 1949 ...	...	...	Nil.

Structural Alterations—

Outstanding from previous year ...	...	...	5
Found during the year ...	...	...	Nil.
Remedied during the year ...	...	...	1
Outstanding on 30th Sept., 1949 ...	...	...	4

*Milk Sampling :—**Ordinary Milk—*

No. of samples taken for bacteriological examination ...	...	...	84
No. found to be satisfactory ...	...	...	79
No. found to be unsatisfactory ...	...	...	5

The Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1936—1946.

No. of licences issued in respect of Accredited Bottling	Nil.
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Biological Examination of Milk.

A system of quarterly sampling of milk producers was instituted towards the end of 1949 and by December 31st, 1949, 68 samples of milk had been submitted for guinea pig inoculation.

Of these, only one showed the presence of living tubercle bacilli. Action was immediately taken to ensure that the supply became safe for consumption.

*ICE CREAM.**No. of premises registered :—*

Manufacture and retail ...	...	...	3
Manufacture only ...	...	...	—
Retail only ...	...	...	6
No. of samples taken ...	...	...	1

The greater part of the area is serviced by Ice Cream Vendors from Leicester, Uppingham and Market Harborough.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

There are no Regional Slaughterhouses in the area. Pigs slaughtered by local cottagers are examined on request. Ten examinations have been made at the time of slaughter.

There are no Knacker Yards in the area.

Food Condemned during the year.

Beef	...	...	...	...	242 lbs.	
Bacon	...	...	...	...	14½ lbs.	
Mixed tinned meats	...	...	...	...	3½ lbs.	
No. of Inspections made at Meat Shops, Stores, etc.						29
No. of Inspections made at places where food other than meat is prepared	...	...	...	...		16

HOUSING.

1. *New Houses.*

Total number of applicants for Council Houses at the end of the year	...	...	...	...	...	345
No. of houses completed during the year by Local Authority (permanent)	...	...	...	...	...	34
Average cost per house	...	...	...	...	...	£1,500
Average rent, inc. of exc. of Rates	...	...	...	...	...	13/6d.
Houses completed by private enterprise	...	...	...	...	...	5
Houses in course of erection at end of year, by Local Authority (permanent)	...	...	...	...	...	29
Average cost per house	...	...	...	...	...	£1,500
Average rent	...	...	...	...	...	13/6d.
Total number of post-war houses completed :—						
(1) Local Authority	...	...	...	...	...	165
(2) Private Enterprise	...	...	...	...	...	10

2. *Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year.*

(a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected during the year for Housing Defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts).	...	...	...	...	614
No. of Inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	...	1200
(b) No. of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be in a state unfit for human habitation (as per Hobhouse Report)	...	...	...	...	249
(c) No. of houses (exclusive to those referred to in sub-heading preceding) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	614

3. *Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal Notice.*

No. of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or its Officers	31
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4. *Action under Statutory Powers during the year* ... Nil.5. *Housing Act, 1936, Part IV. Overcrowding :—*

The number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year is unknown.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

TABLE 1. Table showing the cases of infectious disease notified during the year :—

Age Group.	Measles.		Whooping Cough.		Scarlet Fever.		Acute Pneumonia.		Paratyphoid Fever.		Acute Poliomyelitis.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	...	1	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
1	2	1	3	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
3	2	3	2	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
5	6	16	3	4	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	1
10	3	4	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15	1	...	2	...	...	1	...	1	...	1	2	...
25	1	...	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	1
45	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
65	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
Total	15	25	10	10	3	5	1	4	...	1	2	2

TABLE 2. Table showing new cases and deaths from Tuberculosis during the year:

Age Group.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0
1
3	1	...
5	1	...	...	...	...	...
10
15
25	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
45
65
Total:	1	...	1	...	1	...	1	...

Factories Act, 1937 and 1948.

Premises.	No. on Register.	Inspections made.
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	23	9
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is to be enforced by Local Authority	51	19
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	10	4
Total :	84	32

Outwork (Section 110 and 111).

Nature of Work	No. of Workers on List.
Wearing apparel—Making, etc.	145

Population by Parishes at December 31st, 1947

Parishes.	Total Popu- lation	Pop. aged 21 and over.		Total.	Population under 21 years of age.
		Male.	Female.		
Blaston	76	19	25	44	32
Husbands Boswr'th	813	262	291	553	260
Brighthurst	49	17	16	33	16
Cranoe	47	13	16	29	18
Drayton	94	40	37	77	17
Easton Magna	432	139	148	287	145
Fleckney	1636	494	588	1082	554
Foxton	344	108	125	233	111
Glooston	58	21	19	40	18
Gumley	165	54	57	111	54
Hallaton	462	131	138	269	193
Holt	56	15	18	33	23
Horninghold	88	34	32	66	22
Kibworth Bcp.	1692	549	649	1198	494
Kibworth Hct.	664	179	231	410	254
Langton East	271	72	85	157	114
Langton Thorpe	96	28	24	52	44
Langton Tur	229	68	71	139	90
Langton West	65	21	24	45	20
Laughton	89	32	33	65	24
Lubenham	727	211	239	450	277
Medbourne	397	114	126	240	157
Mowsley	195	57	63	120	75
Saddington	205	58	69	127	78
Shangton	49	14	20	34	15
Slawston	119	40	40	80	39
Smeeton Westerby	341	105	112	217	124
Stockerston	44	15	13	28	16
Stonton Wyville	50	18	19	37	13
Theddingworth	210	62	72	134	76
Welham	37	11	14	25	12

APPENDIX A.

TABLE showing the age and sex distribution of the population
at December 31st, 1947.

Given as percentages of total population.

Age Groups	Mkt. Harboro' Rural District.		Aggregate of Leics. Rural Districts.		England & Wales.	
	Male	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
0—4	3.8	3.6	4.5	4.3	4.4	4.2
5—14	7.2	5.5	7.0	6.5	6.8	6.6
15—17	1.9	1.9	2.0	1.9	2.0	2.0
18—19	0.8	1.0	0.7	1.3	0.6	1.0
20—24	5.8	3.1	3.0	3.3	2.8	3.7
25—34	9.9	6.3	7.5	7.5	7.3	7.9
35—44	8.4	6.8	8.3	8.1	7.8	8.1
45—54	5.8	6.2	6.3	6.8	6.2	7.1
55—64	4.5	5.6	4.6	5.3	4.8	5.8
65—74	3.5	3.8	3.3	4.0	3.2	4.2
75—84	1.2	2.2	1.6	1.7	1.2	1.8
Over 84	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.3

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE BOARD,
POLISH HOSTEL, LUBENHAM,

Population at 31st December, 1949.

<i>Age Groups</i>		<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Under 6 months	...	5	5	10
6 months to 1 year	...	22	18	40
2 years to 4 years	...	14	20	34
5 years to 10 years	...	8	14	22
11 years to 15 years	...	9	2	11
16 years and over	...	201	171	372
		—	—	—
	Totals :	259	230	489
		—	—	—

